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EXAMINER

DICKERSON, CHAD S

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2625

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/689,323	Applicant(s) CUNNAGIN ET AL.	
	Examiner CHAD DICKERSON	Art Unit 2625	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 August 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10/20/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. However, the references of Gillam, Manico, Wegeng, Aoki and Oyanagi are still being applied to the claims.

In the Amendment filed 8/25/08, the Applicant traversed the rejection. The Applicant asserted that the references of Gillam and Manico are deficient in disclosing the features contained in the claims in question. The Applicant asserted that the features of (1) a photo card reader of claim 1, (2) the operator panel feature of claim 3, (3) the claim feature of claim 2 and (4) the claim features of claims 15 and 20 are not disclosed. The Examiner disagrees with these assertions.

Regarding the first assertion, in the earlier actions the Examiner interpreted that function of the photo card reader is analogous to the feature of the Gillam reference reading badges as disclosed in paragraph [0022]. With Applicant's description of the feature, a clearer understanding was gathered. However, even with the more clear understanding the Examiner would like to bring to Applicant's attention the claim language. The claim language states "a machine which is adapted to function as at least **two** different devices, wherein the at least **two** different devices are chosen from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a facsimile-sending device, and a photo card reader ...". With the claim language, the limitations do not state that all of the devices have to be disclosed, but only two of the listed devices have to be disclosed by the applied references.

With the above mentioned statement, the Examiner would like to mention that the Gillam reference performs at least four of the five functions in the group. If the photo card reader is a reader that physically reads cards with photos display on the card, the Examiner believes that the badge reader of the Gillam reference in paragraph [0022] reads on this feature. However, if the photo card reader is a reader that reads a memory card with photos stored on the card, the Applicant is reminded that the feature of reading a card with image data, such as photos, is disclosed in the Manico reference in the digital data storage device (16) (as stated in col. 3, ln 47-58 and shown in figure 1). With the display device in Manico considered as an interface device, the system discloses the feature of reading image data from a card inserted in the display device. Also, in the background of the invention, the Applicant admits to a prior art system containing a photo card reader. Therefore, if the Applicant disagrees with the reference of Gillam disclosing the photo card reader, the Manico reference and the background of Applicant's invention discloses this feature.

Regarding the last remaining assertions, the Examiner would like to mention that the Gillam reference can contain multiple user interfaces that work with the printing device. With the multiple user interfaces being used, the Examiner can consider certain user interfaces used as the operator panels in Applicant's invention as long as the user interface performs the feature of the Applicant's claim limitation. With this argument, the Applicant asserted that the user interface in the Gillam reference (36) does not disclose the claim feature of claim 3. The Examiner realizes that the user interface (36) of the printing device does not transmit image data and cannot convey image information.

The Examiner understands the argument that this same interface is not removably attachable to the machine. However, in the Manico reference, the display device that is connected to the display module (30) is removably attachable to the overall module system. The overall module system can be used to print image data and scan print data (col. 5, ln 22-50). It may be again argued that the display device in the Manico reference may convey image data. However, the background of the invention introduces two interfaces that can be used to work with the device and these interfaces do not record images, nor do these interfaces transmit image information to any device in the system. Like the Gillam reference and the Manico reference, the attached interfaces mentioned in the background of the invention can be used to cause a machine to operate as a printer, copier or facsimile. The Examiner believes that the modification of the Gillam reference by the admitted prior art is sufficient since it would not render the Gillam invention inoperable since it contains an interface that does not convey nor transmit any data and the Gillam reference is able to contain multiple interfaces to the interacting machine.

Therefore, with the use of the admitted prior art applied against the claim limitations, the Examiner believes that the features of claims 2, 3 and 15 are disclosed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

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invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 3-14, 19 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillam '894 (US Pub No 2004/0051894) in view of Manico '557 (USP 7170557).

Re claim 1: Gillam '894 discloses an all-in-one printing system comprising:

a) a machine which is adapted to function as at least two different devices, wherein the at least two different devices are chosen from a group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a facsimile device, and a photo card reader (i.e. in machine (10) are the functions of faxing, scanning, copying and printing. With the use of the device (12) a reading function of badges and other things can also be performed; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0022]), and wherein the machine includes machine controller electronics which alone, when activated, enables the machine to function as all of the at least two different devices (i.e. when the machine (10) is activated by the device (12) it can perform all the above features; see paragraphs [0019]-[0022]);

b) a first operator panel which is removably and directly attachable to the machine and which when attached to the machine interfaces with the machine controller electronics to selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least one of the at least two different devices (i.e. the device (12) has an operator panel that is used to instruct the machine to perform a scanning, printing, copying or faxing operation. This device can be directly attachable from the machine through a USB port, which can be removed from the machine as well. This

device can activate the functions of the machine when connected or detected from a short range of the device; see paragraphs [0019]-[0024]); and

c) a second operator panel which is removably attachable to the machine instead of the first operator panel and which when attached to the machine interfaces with the machine controller electronics to selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least a different one of the at least two different devices (i.e. in the system, multiple devices (10) can be used in the system as shown in figure 1. The second device can also perform the features of activating the machine (10) to perform copying, scanning, printing and faxing. However, this device can be used to perform a different function from the first device. The device is also directly attachable to the machine; see paragraphs [0019]-[0024]).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses directly physically engages with the machine (i.e. similar to the system of Gillam, the Manico invention involves having detachable operator panels that are used to instruct functions (i.e. printing) of the other modules in the system (same field of endeavor). However, in the system, a display device (10) is used to display images that are received through either recording or through a memory device. This display device connects to a plurality of modules, with one module able to print images. The display device engages with the display dock shown in figures 2 and 3. This performs the

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feature of having a user interface able to dock into a device that is able to perform a printing and printer scanning operation; see col. 3, lines 47—col. 4, line 45 and col. 5, line 5 – col. 6, line 21),

wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel (i.e. in the system of Manico, the invention is able to have display units, considered as operator panels attached to the display module at any time. The invention can allow for one operator panel to be attached to the display module (34) instead of another display module; see col. 7, ln 64-col. 8, ln 16).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel in order to have a display device that is used to enter instructions into the system as an interface that is able to be docked on the display module (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 2-45).

Re claim 4: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the at least two devices include at least the printer, and wherein the received data on which the printer operates is electronic data from a host computer (i.e. the paragraph of [0031] specifically states that jobs are transmitted to the copier from a host computer over the network. Also, listed in the

previous paragraph [0030], the module (18) can reside in a computer that communicates with the copier (10)).

Re claim 5: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the at least two devices include at least the copier, and wherein the received data on which the copier operates is a hard copy original (i.e. disclosed in paragraph [0019] is the copier being able to accept hard copy images through an input scanner and print the input images).

Re claim 6: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '848 discloses wherein the at least two devices includes at least one of the scanner and the facsimile-sending device, wherein the received data on which the scanner operates is a hard copy original (i.e. disclosed in paragraph [0019] is the copier being able to accept hard copy images through an input scanner and print the input images), and

wherein the received data on which the facsimile-sending device operates is at least one of electronic data from a host computer and a hard copy original (i.e. in the previously mentioned paragraph [0019], the disclosure notes that the scanned images in the copier can be transmitted through facsimile to an external location on a computer memory or some location on the network (also see paragraph [0026])).

Re claim 7: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first set of at least one push button operatively connected to the machine controller electronics to at least in part selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least one of the at least two different devices when the first operator panel is attached to the machine (i.e. when viewing the device in figure 2, the device includes at least one push button on the device that, when connected to the machine (10) can have the machine perform a desired function; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0027]), and

wherein the second operator panel includes a second set of at least one push button operatively connected to the machine controller electronics to at least in part selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least a different one of the at least two different devices when the second operator panel is attached to the machine instead of the first operator panel (i.e. when another device is used to be attached to a machine through a USB, this device can also be used to have the machine perform a different function on the machine than the previous device connected to the machine; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0027]).

Re claim 8: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen, wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen, and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen (i.e. in Manico '557, the display devices are used as user interfaces that display different types of information. The display devices can show different types of instructions to different users depending on what the user desires to perform on the system; see col. 3, line 47 – col. 4, line 65), wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen (i.e. since multiple display devices can be used in the system, a second display device can be used in the system to perform functions in the system also; col. 7, line 64 – col. 45), and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen (i.e. with the different display devices, the displays can show different messages depending on the instructions the user is inputting into the system in order to perform certain functions in the system; see col. 3, line 47 – col. 4, line 65).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen, wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen, and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen in order to have display devices used to accept instructions and display images (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 1-65).

Re claim 9: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

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Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel lacks a display screen (i.e. shown in figure 2, the device (12) does not specifically show a display screen; see figure 2).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen (i.e. since multiple display devices can be used in the system, a second display device can be used in the system to perform functions in the system also; col. 7, line 64 – col. 45).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the function wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen in order have display devices used to accept instructions and display images (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 1-65).

Re claim 10: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics (i.e. in the system, each device has an associated identification code that is recognized by the machine's security module (18 and 42); see paragraphs [0023]-[0032]), wherein the second operator panel includes a second identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics and which is different than the first identification code (i.e. in the system, since each device has a separate respective identification code, then

the system performs the feature of having a second device that has its own identification code in order to differentiate that device from other devices; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0023]-[0032]).

Re claim 11: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first set of at least one push button operatively connected to the machine controller electronics to at least in part selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least one of the at least two different devices when the first operator panel is attached to the machine (i.e. when viewing the device in figure 2, the device includes at least one push button on the device that, when connected to the machine (10) can have the machine perform a desired function; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0027]), and

wherein the second operator panel includes a second set of at least one push button operatively connected to the machine controller electronics to at least in part selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least a different one of the at least two different devices when the second operator panel is attached to the machine instead of the first operator panel (i.e. when another device is used to be attached to a machine through a USB, this device can also be used to have the machine perform a different function on the machine than the previous device connected to the machine; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0027]).

Re claim 12: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen, wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen, and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen (i.e. in Manico '557, the display devices are used as user interfaces that display different types of information. The display devices can show different types of instructions to different users depending on what the user desires to perform on the system; see col. 3, line 47 – col. 4, line 65), wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen (i.e. since multiple display devices can be used in the system, a second display device can be used in the system to perform functions in the system also; col. 7, line 64 – col. 45), and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen (i.e. with the different display devices, the displays can show different messages depending on the instructions the user is inputting into the system in order to perform certain functions in the system; see col. 3, line 47 – col. 4, line 65).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the function of wherein the first operator panel includes a first display screen, wherein the second operator panel includes a second display screen, and wherein the machine controller electronics is adapted to

display at least one message on the second display screen but not on the first display screen in order to have display devices used to accept instructions and display images (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 1-65).

Re claim 13: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel lacks a display screen (i.e. shown in figure 2, the device (12) does not specifically show a display screen; see figure 2).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen (i.e. since multiple display devices can be used in the system, a second display device can be used in the system to perform functions in the system also; col. 7, line 64 – col. 45).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the function wherein the second operator panel includes a display screen in order have display devices used to accept instructions and display images (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 1-65).

Re claim 14: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics (i.e. in the

system, each device has an associated identification code that is recognized by the machine's security module (18 and 42); see paragraphs [0023]-[0032]),

wherein the second operator panel includes a second identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics and which is different than the first identification code (i.e. in the system, since each device has a separate respective identification code, then the system performs the feature of having a second device that has its own identification code in order to differentiate that device from other devices; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0023]-[0032]).

Re claim 19: Gillam '894 discloses a simple and configurable all-in-one operator panel comprising:

a machine which is adapted to function as at least two different devices (i.e. in the system, the machine (10) can function as a printer, scanner, copier, printer or facsimile-sending device; see paragraphs [0019]-[0022]),

wherein the at least two different devices are chosen from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a facsimile device, and a photo card reader (i.e. in machine (10) are the functions of faxing, scanning, copying and printing. With the use of the device (12) a reading function of badges and other things can also be performed; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0022]),

wherein the machine includes machine controller electronics which alone, when activated, enables the machine to function as all of the at least two different devices (i.e.

when the machine (10) is activated by the device (12) it can perform all the above features; see paragraphs [0019]-[0022]),

wherein the machine is adapted to receive a first operator panel and to receive a second operator panel instead of the first operator panel (i.e. in the system, the devices (12) can be attached to the machine (10) in any order; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0025]),

wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine and when attached to the machine serves only as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least one of the at least two different devices (i.e. the device (12) has an operator panel that is used to instruct the machine to perform a scanning, printing, copying or faxing operation. This device can be directly attachable from the machine through a USB port, which can be removed from the machine as well. This device can activate the functions of the machine when connected or detected from a short range of the device; see paragraphs [0019]-[0024]), and

wherein the second operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the first operator panel and when attached to the machine serves only as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to selectively activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to function as at least a different one of the at least two different devices (i.e. in the system, multiple devices (10) can be used in the system as shown in figure 1. The second device can also perform the features of activating the machine (10) to perform copying, scanning, printing and

faxing. However, this device can be used to perform a different function from the first device. The device is also directly attachable to the machine; see paragraphs [0019]-[0024]).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses directly physically engages with the machine (i.e. similar to the system of Gillam, the Manico invention involves having detachable operator panels that are used to instruct functions of the other modules in the system (same field of endeavor).

However, in the system, a display device (10) is used to display images that are received through either recording or through a memory device. This display device connects to a plurality of modules, with one module able to print images. The display device engages with the display dock shown in figures 2 and 3. This performs the feature of having a user interface able to dock into a device that is able to perform a printing and printer scanning operation; see col. 3, lines 47—col. 4, line 45 and col. 5, line 5 – col. 6, line 21),

wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel (i.e. in the system of Manico, the invention is able to have display units, considered as operator panels attached to the display module at any time. The invention can allow for one operator panel to be

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attached to the display module (34) instead of another display module; see col. 7, ln 64-col. 8, ln 16).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel in order to have a display device that is used to enter instructions into the system as an interface that is able to be docked on the display module (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 2-45).

Re claim 21: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the at least two different devices include the printer and the scanner (i.e. in the system the machine can function as a printer and a scanner; see paragraphs [0019]-[0024]), wherein the attached first operator panel enables the machine to function as the printer but not the scanner (i.e. in the system, a device can be used to command the machine (10) to print or copy a document that is sent to the machine (10); see paragraphs [0019]-[0030]), and wherein the attached second operator panel enables the machine to function as the scanner and the printer (i.e. with the devices (12) able to do the similar functions, the second device used can order the printer to perform scanning and printing a document; see paragraphs [0019]-[0030]).

4. Claims 2, 3 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillam '894, as modified by Manico '557, as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of the background of the invention.

Re claim 2: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the first operator panel cannot record an image (i.e. in Gillam, the user interface on the machine (10) is used as an operator panel and this panel cannot record an image; see paragraphs [0029]-[0031]).

However, Gillam '848 fails to teach and wherein the second operator panel cannot record an image.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by the background of the invention. The background of the invention discloses and wherein the second operator panel cannot record an image (i.e. in the background of applicant's invention, two operator panels can be attached to a copier device, similar to the system of Gillam (same field of endeavor), but these operator panels do not record any image data. The background of the invention can be used to modify the user interface on the copier in the Gillam system in order to allow for this part of the invention to operate as a component that enables printing, copying or scanning and for another interface to be added to the copier to add another feature to the printing device; see page 1, ln 9-20).

Therefore, in view of background of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of and wherein the second operator panel cannot record an image incorporated in the device

of Gillam '894, as combined with the features of Manico '557, in order to have a copier machine operate in a manner that is enabled by the attachment of the panels (as stated in background of the invention page 1, ln 9-20).

Re claim 3: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel cannot transmit image data to the machine (i.e. the printer device has a user interface (36) and this can be considered as the first user interface. With this user interface, the function of transmitting information outside the machine to another location is not performed with this interface. This interface creates the print job with a couple of keys and these jobs are queued to be printed; see paragraphs [0029]-0031]).

However, Gillam '894 and Manico '557 fail to specifically teach and cannot convey image data.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by the background of the invention. The background of the invention discloses cannot convey image data (i.e. in the two interfaces that can be used with a machine cannot convey any image data to the machine, but these devices can work with the machine to operate in different manners. Since both the background of the invention and the Gillam reference involve using interfaces that are attached to a machine in order to operate the machine in a certain manner, it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill to combine the two references (same field of endeavor); see page 1, ln 9-20).

Therefore, in view of background of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of cannot convey image data in order to have a copier machine operate in a manner that is enabled by the attachment of the panels (as stated in background of the invention page 1, ln 9-20).

Re claim 22: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Manico '557 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system of claim 1, wherein the at least two different devices include the printer and the reader (i.e. in the system, it is shown that a printer is a device and that the device (12) can perform as a barcode or badge reader; see paragraphs [0019]-[0030]), wherein the attached first operator panel enables the machine to function as the printer but not the reader (i.e. in the system, when the device is used, it can command the machine to perform a print job as a printer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0030]), and wherein the attached second operator panel enables the machine to function as the scanner and the printer (i.e. in the system, the machine can be used to operate as a scanner and as a printer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0030]).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach photo card reader.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by the admitted prior art. The admitted prior art discloses a photo card reader (i.e. in the admitted prior art, the specification states that a photo card reader is included in the functions of the conventional printing system; see page 1, lines 9-20).

Therefore, in view of the admitted prior art, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have a photo card reader in order to have photo card reading similar to conventional printing system (as stated in the admitted prior art page 1, lines 9-20).

5. Claims 15, 17 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillam '894 in view of Manico '557, Wegeng '848 and the background of the (Applicant's) invention.

Re claim 15: Gillam '894 discloses a simple and configurable all-in-one operator panel comprising:

a) a machine which is adapted to function as at least a facsimile device (i.e. illustrated in figure 3, the machine (16) includes both a printer and a scanner subsystem and these subsystems perform the function of being two different devices that perform scanning and printing functions in the multifunctional device. The facsimile transmission function can be performed by the machine as well; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0015]-[0021]), and

wherein the machine includes machine controller electronics which alone, when activated, enables the machine to operate as at least the facsimile device in a computer-host-based mode (i.e. in the system, when a device is connected to the machine (10) and the device instructs a scan-to-file function on the machine, the machine needs the use of the computer for the storing function. With the use of the

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computer in the storing function, this is considered as a computer-host-based function and the machine is operated in the mode. Also, as stated in paragraphs [0030] and [0031], the module (18) can be in a computer that is connected to the machine that enables the machine to process print jobs. With this computer connected to the machine, this scenario represents the claim function of having the machine electronics being able to operate in a computer-host based mode; see paragraphs [0019]-[0026], [0030] and [0031]);

b) a first operator panel which is removably and directly attachable to the machine and which when attached to the machine serves only as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to operate as at least a facsimile device in the computer-host-based mode, (i.e. the device (12) has an operator panel that is used to instruct the machine to perform a scanning, printing, copying or faxing operation. This device can be directly attachable from the machine through a USB port, which can be removed from the machine as well. This device can activate the functions of the machine when connected. Also, with the device being connected to the machine and ordering a function that requires the outside use of a computer, the system is considered to operate in computer-host-based mode and cannot operate in a stand-alone-based mode because of the use of the outside computer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0025]); and

c) a second operator panel which is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the first operator panel, which has operator panel controller electronics for the machine to operate in the stand-alone-based mode, and which when

attached to the machine serves only as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to operate the machine in the stand-alone-based mode (i.e. in the system, multiple devices (10) can be used in the system as shown in figure 1. The second device can also perform the features of activating the machine (10) to perform copying, scanning, printing and faxing. However, this device can be used to perform a different function from the first device. The device is also directly attachable to the machine. When this device orders a fax operation, the system works in a stand-alone-based mode since the machine does not need to involve the use of an external device such as a computer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0029]) and to activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to also function in the computer-host-based mode (i.e. when using the same second device (12) to perform the scan-to-file function, the use of an external device, such as a computer, is needed. With the use of the outside computer, the system operates in a computer-host-based mode. As also stated in paragraph [0030], if the module (18) is employed inside a host computer, then the information sent to the machine (10) is sent through the computer from the device (12), operating in a computer host based mode; see paragraphs [0019]-[0029]).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach which does not source image data, directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel and wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses directly physically engages with the machine (i.e. in the system, a display device (10) is used to display images that are received through either recording or through a memory device. This display device connects to a plurality of modules, with one module able to print images. The display device engages with the display dock shown in figures 2 and 3. This performs the feature of having a user interface able to dock into a device that is able to perform a printing and printer scanning operation; see col. 3, lines 47—col. 4, line 45 and col. 5, line 5 – col. 6, line 21),

wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel (i.e. in the system of Manico, the invention is able to have display units, considered as operator panels attached to the display module at any time. The invention can allow for one operator panel to be attached to the display module (34) instead of another display module; see col. 7, ln 64-col. 8, ln 16).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel in order to have a display device that is used to enter instructions into the system as an interface that is able to be docked on the display module (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 2-45).

However, Gillam '894 in view of Manico '557 fails to teach wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Wegeng '848. Wegeng '848 discloses wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine (i.e. in the system, the copier device does not operate as a facsimile device with the first user interface, or operation panel, used as the operator panel. This performs the feature of having a copier device having a user interface and the copier not able to operate as a facsimile device; see paragraphs [0024]-[0029]).

Therefore, in view of Wegeng '848, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine, incorporated in the device of Gillam '894, as modified by the features of Manico '557, in order to have an alternate electronic device as an alternate interface used to communicate with the copier (as stated in Wegeng '848 paragraph [0007]).

However, the combination of Gillam '894, Manico '557 and Wegeng '848 fails to specifically teach which does not source image data.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by the background of the invention. The background of the invention discloses which does not source image data (i.e. in the background of the invention, the two operator panels that are attachable to

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the copier device are not a source of image data. The operator panels are similar to the operator panel (36) of Gillam in the manner in which the operator panels enable a copier device to perform some function because of the operation of the panel. With the modification of the Gillam reference's operator panel with the features of the background of the invention, the above claim feature is performed. Also, the Wegeng reference above offers an operator panel that does not provide a source of image data. The combination of the Wegeng reference with the Gillam, Manico reference and the background of the invention, the above feature is again believed to be performed; see page 1, ln 9-20).

Therefore, in view of the background of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of which does not source image data, incorporated in the device of Gillam, as modified by the features of Manico and Wegeng, in order to have a copier machine operate in a manner that is enabled by the attachment of the panels (as stated in background of the invention page 1, ln 9-20).

Re claim 17: The teachings of Gillam '894 and Wegeng '848 are disclosed above.

Gillam '894 discloses the system, wherein the first operator panel includes a first identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics (i.e. in the system, each device has an associated identification code that is recognized by the machine's security module (18 and 42); see paragraphs [0023]-[0032]),

wherein the second operator panel includes a second identification code which is recognizable by the machine controller electronics and which is different than the first identification code (i.e. in the system, since each device has a separate respective identification code, then the system performs the feature of having a second device that has its own identification code in order to differentiate that device from other devices; see fig. 3; paragraphs [0023]-[0032]).

Re claim 20: Gillam '894 discloses an all-in-one printing system comprising

a machine which is adapted to function as at least one device, wherein the at least one device is chosen from the group consisting of a printer, a copier, a scanner, a facsimile device, and a photo card reader (i.e. in machine (10) are the functions of faxing, scanning, copying and printing. With the use of the device (12) a reading function of badges and other things can also be performed; see figs. 1 and 2; paragraphs [0019]-[0022]),

wherein the machine includes machine controller electronics which alone, when activated, enables the machine to operate as at least the facsimile device in a computer-host-based mode (i.e. in the system, when a device is connected to the machine (10) and the device instructs a scan-to-file function on the machine, the machine needs the use of the computer for the storing function. With the use of the computer in the storing function, this is considered as a computer-host-based function and the machine is operated in the mode. Also, as stated in paragraphs [0030] and [0031], the module (18) can be in a computer that is connected to the machine that

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enables the machine to process print jobs. With this computer connected to the machine, this scenario represents the claim function of having the machine electronics being able to operate in a computer-host based mode; see paragraphs [0019]-[0026], [0030] and [0031]),

wherein the machine is adapted to receive a first operator panel and to receive a second operator panel instead of the first operator panel (i.e. in the system, the devices (12) can be attached to the machine (10) in any order; see figs. 1-3; paragraphs [0019]-[0025]),

wherein the first operator panel is removably attachable to the machine and when attached to the machine serves only as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to operate as at least the facsimile device in the computer-host-based mode (i.e. the device (12) has an operator panel that is used to instruct the machine to perform a scanning, printing, copying or faxing operation. This device can be directly attachable from the machine through a USB port, which can be removed from the machine as well. This device can activate the functions of the machine when connected. With the device being connected to the machine and ordering a function that requires the outside use of a computer, the system is considered to operate in computer-host-based mode and cannot operate in a stand-alone-based mode because of the use of the outside computer. Also, with the device being connected to the machine and ordering a function that requires the outside use of a computer, the system is considered to operate in computer-host-based mode and cannot operate in a stand-

alone-based mode because of the use of the outside computer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0025]), and

wherein the second operator panel is removably attachable to the machine instead of the first operator pane, has operator-panel controller electronics for the machine to operate as at least the facsimile device in the stand-alone-based mode, and when attached to the machine servers as a user interface with the machine controller electronics to operate the machine as at least the facsimile device in the stand-alone-based mode (i.e. in the system, multiple devices (10) can be used in the system as shown in figure 1. The second device can also perform the features of activating the machine (10) to perform copying, scanning, printing and faxing. However, this device can be used to perform a different function from the first device. The device is also directly attachable to the machine. When this device orders a fax operation, the system works in a stand-alone-based mode since the machine does not need to involve the use of an external device such as a computer; see paragraphs [0019]-[0029]) and to activate the machine controller electronics to enable the machine to also function as at least the facsimile device in the computer-host-based mode (i.e. when using the same second device (12) to perform the scan-to-file function, the use of an external device, such as a computer, is needed. With the use of the outside computer, the system operates in a computer-host-based mode. As also stated in paragraph [0030], if the module (18) is employed inside a host computer, then the information sent to the machine (10) is sent through the computer from the device (12), operating in a computer host based mode; see paragraphs [0019]-[0029]).

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach which does not source image data, directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel and wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Manico '557. Manico '557 discloses directly physically engages with the machine (i.e. in the system, a display device (10) is used to display images that are received through either recording or through a memory device. This display device connects to a plurality of modules, with one module able to print images. The display device engages with the display dock shown in figures 2 and 3. This performs the feature of having a user interface able to dock into a device that is able to perform a printing and printer scanning operation; see col. 3, lines 47—col. 4, line 45 and col. 5, line 5 – col. 6, line 21),

wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel (i.e. in the system of Manico, the invention is able to have display units, considered as operator panels attached to the display module at any time. The invention can allow for one operator panel to be attached to the display module (34) instead of another display module; see col. 7, ln 64-col. 8, ln 16).

Therefore, in view of Manico '557, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of directly physically engages with the machine, wherein the first operator panel is removably and directly

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attachable to the machine instead of the second operator panel in order to have a display device that is used to enter instructions into the system as an interface that is able to be docked on the display module (as stated in Manico '557 col. 4, lines 2-45).

However, Gillam '894 in view of Manico '557 fails to teach wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Wegeng '848. Wegeng '848 discloses wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine (i.e. in the system, the copier device does not operate as a facsimile device with the first user interface, or operation panel, used as the operator panel. This performs the feature of having a copier device having a user interface and the copier not able to operate as a facsimile device; see paragraphs [0024]-[0029]).

Therefore, in view of Wegeng '848, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of wherein the machine cannot operate as at least the facsimile device in a stand-alone-based mode when the first operator panel is attached to the machine, incorporated in the device of Gillam '894, as modified by the features of Manico '557, in order to have an alternate electronic device as an alternate interface used to communicate with the copier (as stated in Wegeng '848 paragraph [0007]).

However, the combination of Gillam '894, Manico '557 and Wegeng '848 fails to specifically teach which does not source image data.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by the background of the invention. The background of the invention discloses which does not source image data (i.e. in the background of the invention, the two operator panels that are attachable to the copier device are not a source of image data. The operator panels are similar to the operator panel (36) of Gillam in the manner in which the operator panels enable a copier device to perform some function because of the operation of the panel. With the modification of the Gillam reference's operator panel with the features of the background of the invention, the above claim feature is performed. Also, the Wegeng reference above offers an operator panel that does not provide a source of image data. The combination of the Wegeng reference with the Gillam, Manico reference and the background of the invention, the above feature is again believed to be performed; see page 1, ln 9-20).

Therefore, in view of the background of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the feature of which does not source image data, incorporated in the device of Gillam, as modified by the features of Manico and Wegeng, in order to have a copier machine operate in a manner that is enabled by the attachment of the panels (as stated in background of the invention page 1, ln 9-20).

6. Claims 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gillam '894, as modified by Manico '557, Wegeng '848 and the background of the

(Applicant's) invention, as applied to claim 15 and 17 above, and further in view of Aoki '274 (US Pub No 2005/0262274) and Oyanagi '300 (US Pub No 2002/0044300).

Re claim 16: The teachings of Gillam '894, Manico '557, Wegeng '848 and the background of Applicant's invention are disclosed above.

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach the system, wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes a rasterizing and print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) and includes a memory operatively connected to the ASIC.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Aoki '274. Aoki '274 discloses wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) (i.e. in the system, the operation panel (601) can be used to perform print formatting in the system on the image data. It is understood that the operation panel has to have some type of integrated circuit that is customized to order the printer to perform the desired functions of the system with the operator panel. With the particular purpose of performing image processing and formatting, the above feature is performed; see fig. 4; paragraphs [0104]-[0106]).

Therefore, in view of Aoki '274, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system, wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) in order to set print settings using the operation panel (as stated in Aoki '274 paragraph [0103]-[0105]).

However, Gillam '894 in view of Aoki '274 fails to teach rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Oyanagi '300. Oyanagi '300 discloses rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC (i.e. in paragraphs [0058] and [0059], the system has an interlaced memory (26) that is connected to the printer ASIC (20) in order to transmit information to the printer ASIC (20). Since the printer ASIC (20) controls the printer engine (22), the printer engine is able to print a raster based on the image data stored in the interlaced memory (26); see fig. 1; paragraphs [0058] and [0059]).

Therefore, in view of Oyannagi '300, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC in order to have a printer, using a printer ASIC, to print stored data into a raster image (as stated in Oyannagi '300 paragraphs [0058] and [0059]).

Re claim 18: The teachings of Gillam '894, Manico '557, Wegeng '848 and the background of Applicant's invention are disclosed above.

However, Gillam '894 fails to teach the system, wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes a rasterizing and print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) and includes a memory operatively connected to the ASIC.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Aoki '274. Aoki '274 discloses wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) (i.e. in the system, the operation panel (601) can be used to perform print formatting in the system on the image data. It is

understood that the operation panel has to have some type of integrated circuit that is customized to order the printer to perform the desired functions of the system with the operator panel. With the particular purpose of performing image processing and formatting, the above feature is performed; see fig. 4; paragraphs [0104]-[0106]).

Therefore, in view of Aoki '274, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have the system, wherein the operator-panel controller electronics includes print formatting application-specific-integrated-circuit (ASIC) in order to set print settings using the operation panel (as stated in Aoki '274 paragraph [0103]-[0105]).

However, Gillam '894 in view of Aoki '274 fails to teach rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC.

However, this is well known in the art as evidenced by Oyanagi '300. Oyanagi '300 discloses rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC (i.e. in paragraphs [0058] and [0059], the system has an interlaced memory (26) that is connected to the printer ASIC (20) in order to transmit information to the printer ASIC (20). Since the printer ASIC (20) controls the printer engine (22), the printer engine is able to print a raster based on the image data stored in the interlaced memory (26); see fig. 1; paragraphs [0058] and [0059]).

Therefore, in view of Oyannagi '300, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time the invention was made to have rasterizing and a memory operatively connected to the ASIC in order to have a printer, using a printer ASIC, to

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print stored data into a raster image (as stated in Oyannagi '300 paragraphs [0058] and [0059]).

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. The admitted prior art still performs the function of having a first operator panel, which is removably attachable to the machine and a second operator panel that is also removably attachable to the machine. Both of these operator panels enable the machine to function as at least one of the two different devices. These operator panels also allow for system to operate in a stand-alone-based mode in which the machine can operate in without the assistance of a host computer.

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

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the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAD DICKERSON whose telephone number is (571)270-1351. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. thru Thur. 9:00-6:30 Fri. 9:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler Haskins can be reached on (571)-272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/C. D./
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